

surface of the electrode plate 61 opposed to the active substrate 2. The chemical solution is confined in a specified region by pressing the electrode plate 61 against the active substrate 2. After completion of the pin hole inspection, the electrode plate 61 is moved away from the active substrate 2 and the chemical solution adhered to the active substrate 2 is recovered and removed. Then, the active substrate 2 is separated from the stage, and taken out of the chemical treatment system after the chemical solution is further removed. It is apparent that the material of the sponge and the material of the member for adhering or fixing the sponge to the electrode plate 61 must be selected taking chemical resistance into account in relation to the chemical characteristics of the chemical solution.

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 47 and 48 with:

As shown in FIGURE 14(1), a piping system for circulating the electrolytic solution 62 is formed as a closed circuit by connecting a supply pipe 83, the box-like container 80 and an electrolytic solution recovery pipe 82, the supply pipe 83 having an electrolytic solution supply tank 85 and an electrolytic

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IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1 and 2 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amend claims 9, 10, and 24 as follows: